The Cleveland Museum of Art
January 14 – March 8, 1987

Impressionist and Post-Impressionist Masterpieces: The Courtauld Collection

January 12, 1987

**CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART PRESENTS A PLAY ON VAN GOGH AND HIS BROTHER, THEO**

A single performance of Letters from the Yellow Chair, a play based on the correspondence between Vincent van Gogh and his younger brother Theo, will be presented by The Cleveland Museum of Art at 8:00 pm Wednesday, January 28, in Gartner Auditorium. Admission is free, but seating is limited.

Written and performed by London actors Graham McTavish and Nick Pace, the two-man play shows the contrasting circumstances and personalities of van Gogh and his brother, a successful art dealer who supported the artist emotionally and financially. The drama begins as Theo is returning from his brother's funeral, and a series of flashbacks reveals the close bond between the two. Letters from the Yellow Chair covers the latter part of Vincent's life at Arles, in which he produced an astonishing number of paintings in a frenzy of creativity--between bouts of madness and epileptic seizures. Much of the dialogue is drawn directly from the letters, and provides a valuable background for the appreciation of van Gogh's work.

The hour-long play was first produced at London's National Gallery in the summer of 1986. Now on its first American tour, the play is also being performed in New York this month at The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The performance has been scheduled to coincide with the exhibition Impressionist and Post-Impressionist Masterpieces: The Courtauld Collection. Both are sponsored by IBM.

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For additional information or black-and-white photographs, please contact the Public Information Office, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106; 421-7340.

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